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CENTENNIAL ECHOES.

Hon. Chauncy M. Depew, the New York orator, truly said: "Milton said of Cromwell 'that war made him great, peace greater.' The superiority of Washington's character and genius was more conspicuous in the formation of our government and in putting it on indestructible foundations than in leading armies to victory and conquering the independence of his country.

"Steam and electricity have changed the commerce not only, they have revolutionized also the Governments of the world. They have given to the press its power, and brought all races and nationalities into touch and sympathy. They have tested and are trying the strength of all systems to stand the strain and conform to the conditions which follow the germinating influences of American democracy.

"The flower of the youth of the nations of Continental Europe are conscripted from productive industries and drilling in camps. Vast armies stand in battle array along the frontiers, and a Kaiser's whim or a Minister's mistake may precipitate the most destructive war of modern times. Both monarchical and republican Governments are seeking safety in the repression and suppression of opposition and criticism. The volcanic forces of democratic aspiration and socialistic revolt are rapidly increasing and threaten peace and security. We turn from these gathering storms to the British Isles and find their people in the throes of a political crisis involving the form and substance of their Government, and their statesmen far from confident that the enfranchised and unprepared masses will wisely use their power."

That the distinguished orator should not have added a word on the late insane increase of military power, expense and domination is to say the least, strange.

Rev. G. W. Briggs, D.D., in King's Chapel, Boston.

We meet to celebrate the inauguration of Washington to-day one hundred years ago. Would to heaven that we might inaugurate him again, that we might inaugurate his spirit, his devotion, his soul, to reform the coming century. How greatly we need him. Undoubtedly there are men in high places true to-day as in the past, but when I think of the others—alas—how many who gain public place by self-seeking, by wiles and fawning, instead of being lifted up by the eager choice of an admiring people, men who deem office a reward, a price and not a trust, men who seem to me worthy of scorn both in their methods and their success—how intensely I long that the one lesson of this grand life shall be borne into the people's heart. Could we once receive it, could the men in high places and the citizens everywhere dedicate themselves to what is true statesmanship and true citizenship in this land of ours, this land which is based upon the thought that humanity rightly unfolded and truly estimated is capable of self-government, requiring the statesman and the citizen alike to give themselves to the work of lifting up humanity till it is worthy of the boon of liberty—could we once dedicate ourselves to that we should be a Commonwealth of which the Pilgrim dreamed when he crossed the sea, a Commonwealth that should realize our most enthusiastic and daring hope.

From the Prayer of Rev. R. S. Storrs, D.D., New York.

O Thou, who hast made of one blood all nations of men, for to dwell on all the face of the earth, appointing their times and the bounds of their habitation, and who

art ever the author of peace and lover of concord, remember in Thy mercy all kindreds of mankind, with them that have office and rule among them. Thou art lifting the gates and opening the doors between the peoples, that the King of Glory may come in. Before the brightness of Thy benign light cause confusion and darkness to flee away. For oppression give freedom; for anxiety and fear give glad expectation; and in place of enmity, jealousy and strife, establish the nations in the quietness of confidence and the fellowship of love, till the peace of the world shall flow like a river and its righteousness as the waves of the sea.

President Harrison.

Washington seemed to come to the discharge of the duties of his high place impressed with a sense of his unfamiliarity with these new calls upon him, modestly doubtful of his own ability and *trusting implicitly in the sustaining helpfulness and grace of that God who rules the world, presides in the councils of nations, and is able to supply every human demand.*

Rev. C. A. Dickinson of Boston.

De Tocqueville says, "Despotism may govern without faith, but liberty never." A self-governing nation implies an aggregate of self-governed people. Self-government in the individual implies God first and self second. Our fathers solved the dark problem of self-government by placing at two angles of the triangle the town house and the school and at the apex the meeting house. It is only when the lines between these angles become well-trodden and familiar paths under the feet of our citizens that we can demonstrate to the world the success of a free government.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells thus kindly responds to election to membership and office in the American Peace Society:

"I am very grateful for the honor conferred upon me by the American Peace Society, and, if I can in any way serve its interests, I shall rejoice. I accept, therefore, the position to which you have so generously elected me, and hope I may be found useful."

Boston, May, 1889.

Among the kind sentiments expressed by lady friends of our work, in view of the foreign trip, none were more grateful than the following:

"May you have a pleasant and refreshing voyage, and meet with all desirable success and be able to further some grand results."

LEICESTER, MASS., May, 1889.

From Hon. Charles A. Hill, M.C.

"I am heartily in sympathy with the objects of the Peace Conference in Paris as stated in the circular letter addressed to me, and should be glad to attend, but that hardly seems possible at present."

JOLIET, ILL.

Thank you for your most interesting paper, "The New Sympathy of the Nations." I have read it with a great deal of interest, and find it worthy both of yourself and the theme.—*S. I. Kimball, Washington, D. C.*